



ສາທາລະນະລັດ ປະຊາທິປະໄຕ ປະຊາຊົນລາວ  
Lao People's Democratic Republic



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic  
United Nations Development Programme

PROJECT TITLE: POVERTY-ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE

## ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

Reporting Period: January – December 2013

Date: December 2013

## ACRONYMS

AF	Agriculture and Forestry
APRC	Asia-Pacific Region Center
ASEAN	Association of South East Asia Nation
CA	Concession Agreement
CSF	Cooperative Social Responsibility
DG	Director General
DESIA	Department of Environment and Social Impact Assessment
DPI	Department of Planning and Investment
DVD	Digital Video Disc
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
DOP	Department of Planning
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMSP	Environmental Management Support Programme (Finland Project)
ESIA	Environment and Social Impact Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
IEE	Initial Environment Examination
ICL	Investment Calling List
INGOs	International Non-Government Organizations
IPD	Investment Promotion Department
Lao PDR	Lao People's Democratic Republic
EMMP	Environmental Mitigation Management Plan
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MLSW	Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOIC	Ministry of Information and Cultural
MoNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Ministry of Planning and Investment
MRT	Mid-Term Review
NA	National Assembly
NERI	National Economic Research Institute
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organization
NIS	National Investment Strategy
NPA	National Protected Area
NSEDP	National Social Economic Development Plan
NUDP	Northern Upland Development Programme
OECD-DAC	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development -Development Assistance Committee
OSS	One-Stop-Service
PE	Poverty and Environment
PEF	Poverty Environmental Facility
PEI	Poverty Environment Initiative
PI	Public Involvement
PIP	Public Investment Programme
PIS	Provincial Investment Strategy
PM	Prime Minister
PPM	Public Participation Manual
SWOT	Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Treats
RCB	Regional Center Bangkok

RECOFTC	Regional Community Forestry Training Center
REED+	Reduce Emission Environmental Degradation
RRF	Results and Resources Framework
RRI	Rice Research Institute
STA	Senior Technical Advisor
SEZ	Special Economic Zone
SEDP	Socio-Economic Development Plan
SESC	Standard Environment and Social Obligation
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
TOR	Term-of-Reference
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP CO	United Nations Development Programme Country Office
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNIPP	United National Indigenous Peoples' Partnership
VFI	Villager Focus International

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Title Project Description .....	1
Project Overview .....	2
III. Progress and Achievements during this Reporting Period .....	5
IV. Success/Human Interest Stories.....	16
V. Lessons Learned .....	17
VI. Risk and Assumption.....	17
Annexes .....	21

## I. Basic Project Description

<b>Project title/Award number</b>	Poverty Environment Initiative Programme Phase 2 Output 1/00061662 Output 2/00068327 Output3/00068328  Output 4/ TBC Output 5/00068329
<b>Executing Agencies:</b>	Outcome1: Department of Planning (DoP), MPI Outcome 2: Investment Promotion Department (IPD), MPI Outcome3: Department of Environment and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA), MONRE Outcome 4: National Assembly Outcome5: National Economic Research Institute (NERI), MPI
<b>Implementing Partner:</b>	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
<b>Donors:</b>	SDC,UNDP, PEF

Project Starting date		Project completion date	
Originally planned	Actual	Originally planned	Current estimate
1 July 2012	1 October 2012	31 December 2015	31 December 2015

<b>Period covered by this report:</b>	1 January – 30 December 2013
---------------------------------------	------------------------------

Total Budget for 2013	Original Budget (US\$)	Latest Signed Revision (US\$)
Outcome 1 (NSED)P)	100,000	103,949
Outcome 2 (IPD)	580,000	779,937
Outcome 3 (DESIA)	420,574	504,773
Outcome 4 (National Assembly)	40,000	40,000
Outcome 5 (NERI)	250,000	261,617

Resources	Donor	Amount (US\$)
	UNEP/PEF	263,193
	TRAC	190,548
	SDC	1,236,536
	<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>1,690,277</b> <b>(including all administrative cost)</b>

*Note: There is additional fund (US\$20,000) from UNIPP that support to PEI-NA but the amount is excluded from total amount in the approved PEI-Framework. Thus total budget for PEI-NA will be US\$60,000.*

## II. Project Overview

The joint United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI) in Lao PDR is not a stand-alone project, it was designed to provide targeted support to for government socio-economic development plan and the United Nation Development Programme Framework (UNDAF):

### *UNDAF Outcomes:*

- Outcome 1: By 2015, more equitable and sustainable growth promoted for poor people in Lao PDR.
- Outcome 8: By 2015, the government and communities better adapt to and mitigate climate change and reduce natural disaster vulnerabilities in priority sectors.

### *Expected Outputs:*

- Output 1.3: Ministry of Planning and Investment, sectors and provinces are better able to develop, implement, monitor, and evaluate plans and policies based on up-to-date data and analysis.
- Output 1.4: Central and local government have capacity to better screen, plan and monitor Foreign Direct Investments to ensure sustainable economic development.
- Output 8.3: Government at national and sub-national level has developed and piloted programmes for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

### *Expected PEI Programme Outcome*

The immediate Outcome for PEI Lao PDR: Capacities of targeted national and provincial government authorities strengthened to integrate poverty environmental concerns in development planning for sustainable and inclusive growth.

### *Expected PEI Programme Outputs:*

The intended outcome is divided into 5 Outputs (components) as shown below:

- **Output 1:** Increased promotion of sustainable, equitable, and climate resilient development into NSEDP planning/ formulation and monitoring and evaluation at national and provincial levels.
- **Output 2:** Improved investment management tools and capacities at Investment Promotion Department (central, provincial) for sustainable growth.
- **Output 3:** Improved effectiveness of ESIA system, particularly for agriculture and forestry plantation sector, as a safeguard for sustainable and climate-resilient development.
- **Output 4:** Selected National Assembly oversight mechanisms improved for quality investments in Natural resource related sectors.
- **Output 5:** Increased targeted economic and environmental evidence available for investment decision making processes

### *The specific objectives of PEI outputs/components are:*

- **Output 1:** to strengthen the capacity of MPI to mainstream PE issues into and translate the five-year NSEDP into effective results-based annual implementation plans, including public investment programmes, aiming at securing continual progress towards the valuable goals of the NSEDP.
- **Output 2:** to support Lao government in strengthening national and provincial investment management system for quality and sustainable growth in Lao PDR.
- **Output 3:** to enhance capacities of the ESIA Department of MONRE to ensure comprehensive review and approval processes of environmental and social impact assessments, conducted by project developers and investors, based on the law and good

practice in effective coordination with the concerned line ministries and state enterprises.

- **Output 4:** to strengthen capacity of the National Assembly to provide oversight and support on the selection of quality investments.
- **Output 5:** to carry out targeted economic and environmental research and policy analysis to better inform investment decisions. It aims to support all PEI components through providing economic and environmental research service, policy analyses, and develops evidence to inform better decision makings to manage the quality aspect of investments

Priority activities to be delivered in 2013 were:

• **Output 1:**

1. Annual planning guideline for incorporating poverty-environment issues and MDGs into annual work plans for sub-national (provincial, district, kumban, village) and sectoral level planning,
2. Application of annual planning guidelines in at least 3 selected provinces.
3. n/a
4. Two green growth project proposals submitted to PIP
- 5.1 At least 3 sub national and sectoral trainings conducted for the inclusion of P-E in the planning and monitoring process
- 5.2 P-E promotional materials, such as a brochure for NSEDP and Mid-Term Review are developed
6. n/a

• **Output 2:**

1. Series of Consultation workshops for finalizing and endorsing National and Provincial Investment Strategies;
2. Support and institutionalize regular discussion forums between related sectors to implement National and Provincial Investment Strategies;
3. Engagement with private sector on CSR issues to support the implementation of the National Investment Strategy;  
Produce two policy brief on issues relating to Poverty-Environment (PE), investment management and promotion;
5. Produce investment promotion brochure and video(s);
6. Support the development and printing of Investment Promotion brochure for 6 pilot provinces;
7. Develop and publish the One Stop Service (OSS) information handbook and conduct a training for OSS officers in 16 provinces;
8. Complete installation and operation of the OSS information tracking system;
9. Develop PE criteria in IPD guideline on national Investment Calling List (ICL) to promote quality, sustainable investment;
10. Support investment aftercare activities;
11. Develop financing model and conduct training on financing model and negotiation skills;
12. Develop model contracts for an agricultural and hotels/resorts MoU and Concession Agreements ;
13. Support the institutionalization of a joint monitoring mechanism between to monitor problematic concessionary investments projects;
14. Support regular provincial investment monitoring in 6 PEI pilot provinces;
15. Redesign investment compliance database and deliver training on the new database;
16. Revise questionnaires for investment monitoring;
17. Develop sustainable financing mechanism for IPD monitoring;
18. Implement of PEI communication strategy .

• **Output 3:**

1. At least one case study on social and environmental impacts of projects and one policy brief on EIA Decree and process developed;
- 2a. EIA Decree revised and consulted with relevant stakeholders at both central and provincial levels and submitted to the government for approvals
- 2b. All general EIA/IEE writing, reviewing and monitoring guidelines consulted with the key stakeholders at central and provincial levels;
3. First drafts (English) of EIA/IEE writing guidelines and Standard of Environmental and Social Obligation for agriculture and forestry investment projects/concession agreements developed;
4. At least 6 joint IPD-DESIA monitoring on selected problematic concessionary investments conducted;
5. At least 40 (additional) national and provincial staff trained on EIA/IEE review and monitoring;
- 6a. At least 120 mass organization, civil society groups including women union, media and central and provincial authorities increased their knowledge on public involvement in ESIA;
- 6b. Current status and quality of public involvement in ESIA assessed.
7. Draft study on financing mechanism for compliance and impact monitoring of investment projects completed

**Output 4:**

1. Build awareness of the NA training centre on PEI developed tools
2. Define what PEI tools should be incorporated into the NA training centres curriculum
3. PE training schedule developed and agreed by NA Training Centre.
4. Support a series of consultation meetings on the draft land policy.

• **Output 5:**

1. Conduct consultation workshops with key stakeholders to identify a list of priority research topics on linkages between poverty and environment
2. Produce a report on an assessment of contract farming models practiced for four crops: banana, cassava, maize and rubber
3. Complete a baseline assessment on the quality of investments in rubber concessions
4. Approved one mini-grant application for a university student to conduct supporting research on contract farming
5. Identify the best structure of the National Experts Group based on lessons learned from Phase I, and establish the Expert Group to carry out research on contract farming
6. Develop a series of formal capacity building modules in environmental economics by identifying the training needs, designing templates and delivering the training modules
7. Organize at least one provincial workshop to disseminate the final results of the study on "Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation"
8. Produce a policy brief with results of the contract farming study
9. Finalize and publish the report for "Economic Valuation Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation" and print the corresponding policy brief.



### III. Progress and Achievements during this Reporting Period

#### At the Outcome level, the Programme is on track to achieve its development objective.

Key national agencies, MPI, MONRE and UNDP Programme Unit have actively participated in and contributed to the PEI planning and implementation process through the programme/project activities, and institutional internal coordination. There is an increasing understanding of the role and objective of PEI among national agencies and related initiative programme, leading to the gradual integration of PEI outputs into their ongoing programme, national planning and development process, and contribution by national agencies to improve investment management, and environmental and social safeguard tools and process.

Available of PEI investment promotion and management tools including investment promotion brochure, video, One-Stop-Service (OSS) tracking system, OSS guidebook, standard model contract for agriculture and tourism concessions, and Financing Model for screening mining investment proposals – have become key means for MPI to screen, select and manage quality of investments for sustainable and inclusive growth. In 2013, PEI also emphasized on supporting MPI to finalize the National Investment Strategy, which will guide future investment promotion and management across the country.

The PEI Public Involvement training programme was very well contributed to the capacity needs of MONRE in strengthening of more than 170 representatives of the state central and province environment authorities, other line agencies mass organizations and NGOs on public involvement in the Environmental Impact Assessment EIA process. The PEI training programme will contribute significantly to achieving of PEI outcome of capacity of targeted national and provincial government authorities strengthened to integrate poverty environmental concerns in development planning.

In 2013, EIA Decree was revised with support from PEI. As the result, the decree was transformed to the Ministerial Instruction and clearly outlined process to conduct the IEE/EIA. This ministerial instruction has become a fundamental legal document that helps investors and also government to conduct and review EIA/IEE documents.

The result of baseline assessment on the quality of investments in rubber concessions indicated numbers of indicators and criteria to classify investment quality. The finding was enabling the Investment Promotion Department of MPI and the Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA) to indicate quality investments for rubber concession projects. In addition, the result of this report was served as background information to develop the Standard Environmental and Social Obligation (SESO) guideline for the agriculture and forestry sector.

#### At the Output level, key achievements by end of 2013 include:

**Output 1: Increased promotion of sustainable, equitable, and climate resilient development into NSEDP planning/ formulation and monitoring and evaluation at national and provincial levels.**

- A. **Annual planning guideline incorporated poverty-environment issues and MDGs into annual work plans for local (provincial, district, kumban, village) and sectoral level planning:** The key achievements include not only mainstreaming of PE concern into the government planning guideline but also mainstreaming it into a report on its plan implementation and relevant documents such as the development of the 7<sup>th</sup> NSEDP Mid-term Review; Draft National Manual for Formulation of National Socio-Economic Development Plan; Guideline for formulation and implementation on annual NSEDP 2013-2014 and annual NSEDP 2013-14. The mid-term revision of the 7<sup>th</sup> NSEDP was published and distribute at the Round Table Meeting in November 2013.

- B. Application of annual planning guidelines in at least 3 selected provinces: Annual Socio-Economic Development Plans 2013-2014 were mainstreamed by MDGs and poverty reduction at provincial level through organization of trainings and disseminations in two different parts of the country. In 2013, PEI is not yet successful incorporates poverty-environmental concerns in provincial annual development plan/annual workplan and budgets. However, in the planning process, Department of Planning (DoP) joined a dissemination workshop on instruction for formulation of NSEDP 2013-14 to the Northern part, which was held between 22-28/9/2013 in Luang Prabang Province by MPI. Almost 60 people participated in this workshop, of which about 40% were female. Through these meetings, based on the guideline, DoP took initiative in providing guidance to the provincial officials from the Northern part in preparing, monitoring and implementing the provincial SEDP 2013-14 with emphasis on linking economic development with social development, especially to protect environment and manage the use of natural resources in efficient manner. Thus, the consultation workshop to provide guidance for Annual Planning, monitoring and Implementation at the provincial level for the Southern Part was organized, in Khammouane Province from 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> November 2013. About 65 people participated in this workshop and similar to the Northern Part. 40% were female.
- C. Two green growth project proposals submitted to PIP: Pilot activity on green growth planning at the provincial level was carried out (Oudomxay Province). Almost 70 people from the local government participated in this activity, of which about 35% were female. The participants have been involved in the green growth planning activity at Oudomxay provincial level and in selected district level. Through this activity, the participants were able to address PE associated impacts from the development process, pressing issues and potential solutions by identifying possible green growth projects in their areas. However, to include the projects into the PIP, it requires further improvement on the project proposals and there is a need to conduct thorough assessment on possible green growth products to attract the development partners or private sectors in contributing fund to demonstrate the projects, which were proposed to put in the next year work plan as the next step.
- D. At least 3 sub national and sectoral trainings conducted for the inclusion of P-E in the planning and monitoring process: Participatory Planning Manual at Village Level (PPM) in both Lao and English languages have been published for dissemination to guide the local government formulating their socio-economic development plans in the participatory manner focusing at the village level. Despite official launching of the PPM was yet postponed to the beginning of 2014 due to time constraints, pilot trainings using this manual were conducted in Meuan and Yangvieng Districts, Vientiane Province as part of the agenda in the Workshop on Evaluating Implementation of the 3-builds directives of the government. There were 120 participants (45% are female) from both central and provincial level. Additionally, a similar event was conducted from Feb-Mar 2013 in Oudomxay Province with 176 participants, about 40% were female.
- E. Development of P-E promotional materials, such as a brochure for NSEDP and Mid-Term Review are developed: Brochure for NSEDP VII and MTR was developed and distributed at the Round Table Meeting in November in order to disseminate the key policies and achievements of the 7th NSEDP implementation with mainstreaming of the green growth planning achievement and poverty reduction.

**Output 2: Improved investment management tools and capacities at Investment Promotion Department (central, provincial) for sustainable growth.**

- A. Finalize, approval and implementation of National Investment Strategy and Provincial Investment Strategies:
- Ongoing finalization of the NIS through participatory process: A series of consultations meetings with IPD had been conducted to review the National Investment

Strategy (NIS). The STA also consulted individually with line ministries. The major change to be addressed in the next (10<sup>th</sup>) version is to broaden the scope of session 4 to make the strategy more policy focused and less of an internal departmental strategy as it currently stands. The final version will be consulted with IPD and relevant sectors before endorsement and implementation in 2014.

**Ongoing development of the PISs through participatory process and on-the-job training:** Provincial Investment Strategies (PIS) of old pilot provinces (Saravan, Savannakhet, Oudomxay and Phongsaly provinces) were reviewed through participatory approach and information gaps identified. Based on additional information provided by the provinces, the STA will lead on the revision of the PISs. Two new pilot provinces (Vientiane and Oudomxay provinces) had developed the first draft of their PIS. The drafting process followed the structure of the updated NIS and involved training local authorities in the provinces on PIS development. Line sectors are being consulted on the draft PISs.

- **Investment information development:** PEI had developed two policy briefs, on “Contract Farming Modeling” and “Investment Monitoring”, which will be used to inform policy makers and the general public on current issues. The policy briefs will be reviewed and printed for dissemination in 2014 in accordance to PEI communication strategy.

#### **B. Investment promotion:**

- **Application of social media to promote investment quality and PEI works:** Investment promotion brochures and video were developed and disseminated in the ASEAN-China Expo to present investment opportunities in the non-natural sectors in Lao. The brochure and video were uploaded to the global PEI website and UNDP CO website. It was also uploaded to the IPD website distributed at investment promotion events both domestically and internationally. DVD copies of the video have been distributed to all 17 provinces as a communication tool to promote sound investments.
- **Investment approval process information guidebook:** The first draft of One Stop Service (OSS) guidebook was reviewed by IPD, and relevant ministry will be consulted to confirm the accuracy of information. The guidebook will provide essential information on services provided by OSS including investment proposal process, establish representative office, related fees, visa application, etc. IPD plans to conduct a workshop for OSS officers from all 16 provinces on how to provide investment information to investors from the guidebook to ensure consistency of investment information nationwide. This workshop will organized in first quarter of 2014, in Vientiane Capital. At the same time PEI will collect feedbacks from the provinces on the OSS guidebook before printing and distribute the guidebook.
- **Promoting transparency and accountability of MPI in managing the investment approval process:** The tracking system for investment approval was developed and installed in IPD. Three days training workshop was delivered to three groups of different users to build capability of IPD staffs in utilizing the tracking system. The system will go live in the first quarter of 2014, after the training and the system will be fine tune during the first 6 months after the system go live.

#### **C. Screening and appraisal:**

- 4 model legal documents that included the MOU and Concession Agreement for agriculture and hotel/resort concessionary projects have been finalized. IPD is committed to implement the new legal documents when the opportunity arises. The model contracts have incorporated environmental and social obligations based on the relevant laws and regulations. These items have been incorporated into the joint monitoring form to ensure contractual obligations are honoured.
- A financing model was developed to assist IPD to effectively screen mining concession proposals. This new tool allows IPD to evaluate the financial profits and returns on

various types of mining projects (Order 13 minerals) including and the financial returns for government on joint ventures in mining. IPD and observers from the Ministry of Mining and Energy were trained on the model and negotiation skill alongside of IPD staff.

**Investment monitoring:**

In 2013, the joint central level monitoring team between IPD/DESIA monitored 12 investment projects in different provinces of Lao PDR. The main findings included insufficient regular reporting by investors, no clear resettlement and compensation plan, no business operations, etc. The joint monitoring team recommended the companies to provide reports, develop resettlement and compensation plans, and suggest the provincial and district authorities to follow up which these projects. In conjunction with this activity, a joint monitoring report template had been prepared and tested. The monitoring teams from each ministerial department will use the template for collecting information from field trips in order to create the official joint monitoring report between the two institutions. This report will be delivered to the DG of DESIA and IPD and once approved the report will be given to the respective Ministers to seek their course of action.

- PEI supports the regular provincial investment monitoring. In 2013 all 6 pilot provinces have monitored 287 concessionary projects, the common issues found include the lack of cooperation from investors (leading to incomplete data collected during missions), operational problems including the lack of inputs, funds and profits, the lack of ESIA's and IEEs, land conflicts, exceeding land clearances, project activities encroached on local peoples land etc. Data collected during these monitoring missions have been entered into provincial standalone databases and mailed to PEI-IPD.
- A consultation workshop with PEI provinces and all relevant line ministries (MAF, MPI, MF, SEZ, MoNRE, MLSW, MoIC) was completed on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013 to discuss the next version of the quality of investment database and monitoring questionnaires. A number of issues were identified including the length, detail and appropriateness of the existing PEI monitoring questionnaire. It was also agreed to revise the quality of investment database, moving towards a web-based system that will improve connectivity at the provincial level and improve data sharing between Ministries at the central level. Based on the identified issues, PEI is now revising the important tools for implementation in Q2 2014. The revision of the database was targeted for 2013 but was delayed due to commitments not being fulfilled through a possible new partnership. This resulted in a substantial delay to this important PEI activity. The issue will be prioritized in early 2014 through the redesigning of the database and delivering training to relevant provincial and central authorities.
- The communication strategy has been revised based on the comments from all components. The planned activities include the development of factsheets, training on writing effective policy briefs, press releases, and video to promote quality investments in Laos. Products will be disseminated to raise awareness of PEI activities with the general public, development partners and the international community.
- Promoting effective communication between PEI components: different coordination and management mechanisms were setup and implemented as part of day-to-day operations of the project team. Some of the PEI coordination mechanisms created were: 1) organizing regular PEI quarterly meetings, ii) board meetings for each component to report on the progress of activities, discuss issues and lessons learnt. Moreover, the team also discussed joint activities across components.

**Output 3: Improved effectiveness of ESIA system, particularly for agriculture and forestry plantation sector, as a safeguard for sustainable and climate-resilient development.**

- A. **EIA Decree revision results in setting up more effective process of applying environment and social safeguards to promote quality investment management:** The key priority for the DESIA in the last two quarter of 2013 was the revision of the **Lao PDR Decree 112 on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA Decree; 2010)**. There were three key reasons for the revision: (i) alignment with the new Environmental Protection Law (EPL; 2013); (ii) including the provisions of the 192 Decree on Resettlement and Compensation in the new EIA Decree (what has not been approved by the Lao PDR Ministry Of Justice at the end); and (iii) pass the mandate to the province level environmental authorities to review and approve the so called Initial Environmental Examinations (IEEs) of the investment projects with the moderate environmental and social impacts. By the end of 2013 the final draft of the new EIA Decree has been finalized, while widely nationally consulted, and submitted for the review to the Lao PDR Ministry of Justice. PEI has contributed to the process above by: (a) technically and financially supporting the wide consultations of the draft EIA Decree with the central and province level key stakeholder (details in the table below), and (b) providing technical input to the revision of the text and to the elaboration of its Annex - List of Investment Projects and Businesses that will be obliged to conduct any type of environmental and social impact assessment (EIA or IEE). Ministry of Justice has recently recommended to change the status from the Decree to the Ministerial instruction. MONRE continues consulting the MoJ.
- B. **Building better understanding on the PI in the EIA process increased the capacity of key stakeholder to participate in the investment approval process:** To address properly the environmental and social impacts of large investment projects (mining, hydropower plants, industrial crops' plantations) on affected communities (often required to be relocated or compensated for the lost livelihood), the MONRE has approved this year the Guideline on Public Involvement in Development (PID); i.e. in EIA process. PEI has designed and delivered the related training to approximately 170 central and province level environment authorities and other line agencies, mass organizations (Lao women union, youth union, trade union) and NGOs. Approximately 40% of the participants were women and the training has the section on gender equality in public involvement.
- C. **Good coordination between ministries has been maintained and the impact of selected investment projects were addressed, reported and provided recommendation for improvement to higher management level in MONRE and MPI through joint investment monitoring between DESIA and IPD:** To improve the process of the investment projects' approval, implementation and monitoring, the PEI has supported joint DESIA-IPD<sup>1</sup> in monitoring 13 selected investment projects (mining, hydropower and industrial plantations), which are known not to comply with the key social and environmental obligations set by the Lao PDR legislation. Unlike before the team has finally prepared the joint IPD-DESIA report to be submitted to the minister of MONRE for making decisions over the follow-up steps. However, several improvements are needed to ensure stronger outcomes of these monitoring exercises: better preparation of the team before the monitoring mission (setting the clear objective and issues of interest), better communication with the monitored companies' senior management, proper identification of the follow-up steps / measures the company is asked to take. The key challenge also remains inclusion of such monitoring to the current MONRE and MPI practice and structure, including financial mechanism.
- D. **Finalization of PEI technical guidelines:** The internal DESIA working group lead by the PEI TA has been established to elaborate the Standard Environmental and Social Obligations (SESO), as well as the technical EIA / IEE guidelines for the agriculture and forestry projects, mainly plantations. These documents are crucial for increasing the

<sup>1</sup> Investment Planning Department of the Ministry of Planning and Investment

capacity of DESIA to properly review and monitor mainly industrial plantations' investments number of which has increased rapidly within last few decades. Preparation of both documents is in progress (see the table below) with the finalization planned in Q1 of 2014.

**Output 4: Selected National Assembly oversight mechanisms improved for quality investments in natural resource related sectors.**

- A. **Different stakeholder groups, especially local communities were able to share their concerns and interests in the development of the land policy:** PEI-NA partnership with UNIPP supported a series of consultation workshops on the development of the National Land Policy with government agencies at the national and local levels and with civil society organizations and not-for-profits. As a result, basic key elements of good land governance, core policy principles, good governance in land tenure, and institutional/political commitment in land management were addressed in the draft National Land Policy. The current draft of the policy will be discussed in the next NA Intersection in June 2014.
- B. **Coordination mechanism between PEI-NA and new programme under UNDP Governance Unit with NA was successfully established:** PEI-NA project resource results framework is inline and integrated in the new NA Programme under UNDPs Governance Unit. Most of project activities will be implemented in collaboration with the NA training centre and NAs Economic Department.

**Output 5: Increased targeted economic and environmental evidence available for investment decision making processes**

- A. **Strategic environmental economic research on critical investments or development projects:**
- Ongoing research on contract farming implementation in Bokeo, LuangNamtha, Vientiane Savanakhet, and Salavan for crops including banana, cassava, maize and rubber. The project achieved most of its targets set in 2013. Data collection for contract farming research was undertaken and data analysis for each case study has been conducted to ensure the research objective and questions could be addressed. Clearer scope of research has been established through regular monthly meetings with National Expert Groups e.g. methodology for analysis and outline of the research report. The pending analysis of soil quality measurement has been done and the draft report on the results will be completed by an external expert.
  - The baseline assessment on the quality of investments in rubber concessions took place in early Q2 2013 and a workshop to discuss final results with relevant line ministries was organized in November 2013. It is expected that the final report and corresponding policy brief will be printed in both Lao and English and be ready for dissemination in early 2014. The PEI-DESIA (Output 3) has been using this document as a baseline and background information to develop the Standard Environmental and Social Obligation (SESO) guideline for the agriculture and forestry sector.
- B. **Increase national capacity in environmental economic valuation and related studied to make better informed decisions**
- Ongoing capacity building on research skills for students at the National University of Lao. The mini grant operational guideline was developed and is now being used by NERI to fully implement the mini grant programme during PEI Phase II. The objective of the mini grants project is to strengthen the capacity of young researchers. At the same time, the mini grant will also fill the gaps on gender issues for ongoing research on contract farming.

- Ongoing strengthening capacity of the NERI staff on the economic valuation, which will support the economic analysis research of NERI: In collaboration with PEI-NSEDP (Output 1), the STA of MPI Programme has delivered training to NERI and UNDP staff on cost and benefit analysis. 22 people participated at the training, with 50% female. Two additional training topics have been identified and will later be prepared in the form of training modules for: i) environmental economic valuation, and, ii) contract farming assessments. The training modules will be developed by an external consultant in early 2014.

**C. Improve communication and dissemination of research with NA, MPI, MONRE and other policymakers:**

- As a result of the NERI dissemination workshop on the study “*Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation: a Case Study on Land Use in Oudomxay Province*”, the local government in Oudomxay province is now aware of the impact of the land use changes and its impact on poverty and environment. They now understand that agro-forestry plantation (rubber plantation) and maize farming could provide more income and improve their well-being for a short period, while the longer term impacts on poverty and environment could be serious. Thus, it is important for the local government and the farmers to find alternative livelihoods and sustainable agriculture management should be promoted. The final reports on this research topic and related policy briefs have been distributed to relevant line ministries, agencies, NGOs and provinces. As a result of this research, the Deputy Governor of Oudomxay province has urged local authorities to widely use this valuable information in the local planning process i.e. at provincial and district levels during the closing of the dissemination workshop.
- At the international level, the results of the *Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation. a Case Study on Land Use in Oudomxay Province* study was presented by the project manager at the 2<sup>nd</sup> UNCCD Scientific Conference in Bonn, Germany in April. This research paper gained much interest from participants at the conference and the report has been published on UNCCD website.

**Achievement on coordination and partnership development across PEI Outputs:**

- PEI-IPD continues to strengthening collaboration between IPD & ESIA on Investment monitoring activities.
- PEI-NSEDP working closely with UNDP STA to deliver training to NERI staff on cost benefits analysis. Further trainings will be delivered.
- PEI Laos has been working closely with RCB communication officer to develop and implement communication strategy.
- PEI-NA and PEI ESIA agreed to conduct the training on Public Involvement and EIA process for the National Assembly (NA) members under the PEI Output 4.
- Potential Output 3 and Output 4 (NA) support to the next research to be conducted by NERI (Output 5); potential focus on the economic evaluation of ecosystem services is being discussed;
- PEI-NERI partnership with PEI-IPD to develop and disseminate baseline assessment for the quality of investments in rubber concessionary projects.
- Partnership with Faculty of Economics and Business Management of the National University of Laos was made to formulate the training manual on environmental economics and valuation of ecosystem services.
- PEI-NERI partnership with PEI-NSEDP to identify list of capacity building or training needs. The first training on the financial and economic appraisal was organized in partnership with PEI Output 1 in last week of October 2013. The training was provided by Mr. Nicholas MADDOCK the UNDP STA assisting the NSEDP process.

Achievement on coordination and partnership with other government agencies and development partners

- Partnerships established with donors and civil society organizations to involve them early in the preparation stage of the project, in order to provide critical inputs into the process based on national plans and priorities and the NSEDP.  
The project worked in close collaboration with its strategic partners (both government and non-government) for development cooperation and strove to strengthen and build on those partnerships which included developing further relationships with key development partners.
- Promoting the core principle put forward by the Paris and Vientiane Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the project worked closely with DIC, the national coordinator for harmonization and alignment, in planning, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of NSEDP 2012-13 to achieve the 7th NSEDP goals and targets and continued to participate in the OECD-DAC survey.
- Cooperation of the PEI with the Finnish government funded project EMSP<sup>2</sup> has improved significantly and has resulted in joint, well-coordinated technical support to the EIA Decree revision, in organizing and co-funding several training (on EIA public involvement) and missions and in elaborating and allocating resources for the joint EIA / IEE training plan for 2014 (can be provided upon request). Representatives of both projects exchange their work plans and meet to discuss the coordination quite frequently.
- PEI-IPD continues to cooperate with line ministries including Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Mining and Energy, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment, and Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism to develop model concession contracts.
- National Expert Group was officially established with total of 16 members from various line ministries.
- Potential new partnerships:  
Village Focus International: Taking into account its experience, discussions with Village Focus International took place in September determine how PEI could cooperate with the NGO to elaborate on the PI baseline study and future PI trainings at district and provincial levels.  
GIZ Northern Uplands Development Programme (NUDP): GiZ staff has expressed interest to support work on the economic valuation of ecosystem services. This would be a good potential partnership if PEI decides to undertake work in this area, especially since GiZ work in this area and is in line with their objectives.  
EMSP/Lao Decide: Potential cooperation on elaborating / updating the EIA database has been discussed among the PEI, EMSP and the Lao Decide info project (of the Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern, Lao PDR ) Country Office. EIA database is one of the priorities of the DESIA but the role and level of support by the different projects needs to be clarified.
- PEI- IPD continues to share information and lessons learnt with GIZ on monitoring activities to improve database and monitoring forms, as well as supporting public-private dialogue that is part of GiZ investment aftercare activities in their target provinces.
- Briefing of development partners (various Embassies, INGOs and NPAs) on draft National Land Use Policy.
- Consolidation of inputs/comments from various development partners (various UNDP APRC office in Bangkok, Embassies, INGOs and NPAs) on draft National Land Use Policy for further action by the Government
- Liaison with various development partners to seek support to the formulation of the National Land Use Policy (GIZ, Village Focus International (VFI), RRI/RECOFTC, FAO, etc.).

<sup>2</sup>Environmental Management Support Project



- Documentations for the above activities include power point presentations, minutes of meetings, recommendations and feedback, correspondences and working Draft National Land Policy are available.
- NA Economic Department was assigned as an implementing body for the PEI NA and will coordinate with the Training Centre during implementation of the PEI-NA activities.

#### Achievement on gender mainstreaming

- The emerging 3-builds programme was conducted in the view of gender empowerment. Thus, the training conducted in Vientiane and Oudomxay Provinces with a large number of participants and it is reported that 40% of the total participants were female.
- Gender balance is one of central concern in carry out the activity on green growth planning which emphasis mainstreaming of PE linkages as well as MDG in the planning process at the local level (especially in three pilot provinces: Huaphanh, Oudomxay, and Saravane).
- The project has continually encouraged gender mainstreaming in project activities. Female candidates are encouraged to apply for all position advertises in 2013.
- Gender disaggregation data have been addressed in the joint monitoring questionnaire in order to address the role of gender in Lao Investments.
- Video on “Organic farming in Laos” had portrayed the successful business women in organic farming business in Laos.
- There is 22 assigned staff (10 women) from ESIA Department involved in PEI under the supervision of a female project manager. In addition to this, 3 PEI project staff members are women. Moreover, the PEI project was developed to ensure the balance in gender representation. The project involves women in project implementation from the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation stages. Training on Public Involvement in EIA/IEE process includes a session on how to address gender issues in ESIA and through public participation, and 40% of 170 trainees were women.
- A proposed mini grant research topic aims to identify and fill the gap of gender issues in the contract farming study, especially in rubber case. In data collection in Savanakheth and Salavan provinces, female participant consisted of 29%, Bokeo province 17,65%, LuangNamtha 23,80%, Vientiane province 21, 74%. In the dissemination workshop on land use valuation, the proportion of female participant was 6,45%.
- The National Land Policy working toward recognizing gender rights, equality and accessibility to land and natural resources.

#### Programme expenditures

Total budget for 2013 for technical activities was USD812,706.69. As of December 2013, the Programme funds disbursed US\$596,445 during the period 1 January – 31 December 2013(not included the management and administration fee). While it represents a delivery rate of 73% against the total annual budget for technical activities.

#### Challenges facing during tis reporting period include:

##### Output 1:

- Limited funds. Many activities in the project annual work plan have no fund allocated and those funded activities have limited budget.

##### Output 2:

- Fund reduction for 2014 is challenged for 2014 planning activities therefore project needs to prioritize activities accordingly.

- The delay in the recruitment of the communications officer has delayed finalizing the communications strategy and work plan. The projects communication activities in the interim have been managed by the project coordinator.
- The delay in finalization the NIS has led to delays in PIS revision process and the implementation of investment strategies. The STA is focusing on revising version 9<sup>th</sup> of NIS to consult with IPD and line ministries in Q1, 2014.
- The delay in revision of database to assess the quality of concessionary investments and monitoring questionnaire was delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. The issue will be prioritized in early 2014 through the redesigning of the database and delivering training to relevant provincial and central authorities.

#### Output 3:

- Revision of the EIA Decree has been the highest priority for DESIA in 2013. As the result PEI has been requested by the DESIA to move finalization of EIA / IEE guidelines, EIA / IEE training and other activities to 2014, and to allocate the respective 2013 funds for EIA Decree consultation workshops. For the same reason recruitment of external experts has not been realised causing some delays in finalization of the products such as SESO and AF EIA Guidance note. EIA / IEE guidelines, including those for AF sector planned to be finalized in Q1/Q2. PEI has included the EIA / IEE training package as the key priority in the 2014 work plan. SESO being developed by the PEI TA with the help of legal expert.
- Lowering the legal status of the EIA decree to the ministerial instruction, as suggested in December by the MoJ may have implications on the effort of the DESIA and supporting partner to improve enforcement of the EIA legal framework, and on the application of the related guidelines. EMSP and PEI have expressed the concern with the DESIA. At the same time PEI would try to implement the 2014 activities as planned.

#### Output 4:

- English and office administrative proficiency also pose major challenges. Basic administrative training including English training may be needed to facilitate smoother UN-related activities.
- Consultation Workshops on National Land Policy lack proper methodology and procedure making it hard for participants to prepare themselves in advance on what land and natural resources management issues need to be discussed and addressed and by when.
- Weak and/or ineffective communications among stakeholders continue to pose a major challenge for National Land Policy development process.

#### Output 5:

- Some members of the National Expert Group are fully occupied by their own professional schedules leading to delays in the sitting of monthly meeting and discussions on important issues related to progress of research and coordination among team members. It has been realized that the current structure of expert group may not be appropriate and the structure will be revised next year before commencing a new study.
- Coordination with provincial and district authorities can take longer time than expected causing additional delays in planned activities and potentially delaying the delivery research results.
- During data collection, it was realized that the questionnaire for banana base did not actually correspond with the actual situation of banana growing. The research team had to ask more questions in addition to those posed in the questionnaire in order to gain more information on the actual practices. To improve the quality of results, the team conducted another field trip to collect further information on banana export market

chain, chemical import and many other issues related to investment in banana growing by Chinese investors. This would ensure that the research results will not be as comprehensive as possible.

- Challenges regarding to mini grant project implementation, there was a lack of coordination between PEI and the selected team of students which causes a delay in the process of project implementation.

#### IV. Success/Human Interest Stories

- Annual guideline produced and mainstreamed with MDGs, poverty and environment issues. The guideline was used by the Department of Planning in provision of plan formulation guidance to about 125 participants from all provinces, about 40% were female, with emphasis on linking economic development with social development, especially to protect environment and manage the use of natural resources in efficient manner.
- Pilot activity on green growth planning at the provincial level was carried out in Oudomxay Province. There are almost 70 people from the local government participated in this activity, of which about 35% are female. The participants were able to address PE associated impacts from the development process, pressing issues and potential solutions by identifying possible green growth projects in their areas.
- Government authorities, investors and villagers in 6 pilot provinces: Oudomxay, Houphanh, Pongsaly, Savannakhet, Saravanh, and Vientiane provinces involved in the provincial monitoring process. The Department of Planning and Investment (DPI) used participatory process leads investment monitoring activities, as the results they were able to share information, identify coordination gaps at the provincial and district level, including environmental and social issues caused by development projects such as non-obligation, conflict between investors and communities, and solid waste management issues. The result of monitoring was also led to stop bad investment that not compliances to the social and environmental safeguard plan.
- DESIA staffs and line ministries, and NGOs (about 170 people) have improved capacity in terms of technical knowhow on the public involvement in the EIA process as indicated in the training evaluation report.
- The National Assembly Members have exposed to proper procedure on policy development processes. The concept of road map for policy formulation has been clarified and explained in simpler terms so more people can have better understanding and know how to follow the road map. Land Policy Consultation Workshops with the participation of various stakeholders including, member of national assembly, line ministries, INGOs, NGOs and communities - could potentially shape the Land Policy into a better Policy. The Finalization of the National Land Policy and will be submitted to debate in the NA Intersession in June 2014.
- The result of PEI-NERI on the ecosystem valuation on land use – a case study of Oudomxay provinces was disseminated through dissemination workshop in Oudomxay. From the discussion in the dissemination workshop, it was indicated that the local government in Oudomxay province has been awarded of the impact of the land use changed and its impact on poverty and environment. At the international level, the result of such study was presented by project manager at the 2<sup>nd</sup> UNCCD Scientific Conference in Bonn, Germany in April 2013. This research paper gained much interest from participants at the conference and the report has been published on UNCCD website.

## V. Lessons Learned

- There is significant delay in the project implementation in 2013. The realistic on workplan and target set to be achieved is needs to be realistic for example on the green growth project activities.  
There is a need to conduct the assessment of ongoing important activities –e.g. provincial monitoring and joint monitoring.  
Ownership and maintain good coordination with related agencies, development initiative and among PEI components/outputs is important for speeding up the project activities.
- Project monthly meeting is important means to monitor and discuss important issues in both technical and management aspects.
- The development of forums to discuss and comment on technical guidelines is seen as an excellent tool to sensitise stakeholders (including private sectors) on the EIA process.
- There is a need to assess DESIA institutional capacity before delivery training of trainers on IEE/EIA writing, reviewing in order to be able to measure capacity increasing.

## VI. Risk and Assumption

- There is a high risk of the project of not able to influence the PIP allocation to implement the green growth project. PEI will adjust the direction in supporting green growth development project and mainstreaming in the government planning and development project.
- The effective implementation of the M&E framework developed in Phase I may be in the high risk category given the very tight schedule to scale up monitoring sector-wide. Since the M&E framework is key to improving the reporting aspects of the NSEDP, more emphasis is needed to ensure agreed work plans are on schedule and coordination between relevant line ministries is assessed on a bi-weekly basis.
- There is a risk of sufficient delay finalizing NIS and PISs. The high ownership of IPD is important to faster the process in finalizing the NIS and PISs.
- The capacity of DESIA to implement and finalize the EIA/IEE AF guidelines. Inputs from national senior technical advisor and international consultant are needs to support DESIA team.
- ~~Capacity building for NA staffs depends on the progress and available investment management tools developed by other outputs. If there is a delay in finalizing these tool. It will affect the implementation of the activities under PEI output 4.~~

## VII. Way Forward

Priority activities for 2014 include:

### Output 1:

- 1) Continue assisting the Department of Planning (DoP) to mainstream PE and MDG issues into annual planning guideline(s) 2014/2015.
- 2) Assist Department of Planning to conduct two dissemination and training workshops on the annual development plan guideline and participatory planning guideline (50ppls each in northern and southern part)
- 3) Assist DoP to mainstream PE and Green Growth Economy concepts into the 8th NSEDP Formulation Guideline

- 4) Assist DoP to formulate the 8th NSEDP by mainstreaming PEI and green growth economy concept into the draft plan at central level
- 5) Assist DoP to formulate the 8th NSEDP by mainstreaming PEI and green growth economy concept into the draft plan at provincial level (50ppls each in northern and southern part)
- 6) Conduct a seminar to disseminate the draft 8th NSEDP that incorporates PE and green growth concepts
- 7) Strengthen capacity of government officials on sustainable/green growth economy concepts at central level
- 8) Strengthen capacity for government officials on sustainable/green growth economy at provincial level
- 9) Assist Department of Planning to conduct assessment on implementation of participatory planning guideline
- 10) Support activities/processes leading to the finalization of the NSEDP M&E framework with inclusion of PE indicators
- 11) Testing output based reporting for the implementation of the 7th NSEDP 2013/2014 against 7th NSEDP M&E framework that includes PE indicators and pilot outcome based reporting in Vientiane province.
- 12) Two training workshops on the application of the 7th NSEDP M&E framework
- 13) Assist DoP to adapt 7th NSEDP M&E Framework to support 8th NSEDP (M&E Framework)
- 14) Support monitoring of the MDG and PE related indicators
- 15) Assess priority PIP and one district one product plan for Oudomxay, Saravanh and Houphanhs
- 16) Conduct a consultation workshop with development partners on green growth proposals for three pilot provinces
- 17) Follow up workshop and present the findings of accessed priority PIP and one district one product plan for Oudomxay, Saravanh and Houphanhs
- 18) Develop green growth proposal for Oudomxay province
- 19) Prepare a policy brief in the form of booklet to share concept on PEI and green growth planning
- 20) Prepare a brochure to increase awareness on PEI and green growth concepts
- 21) Prepare and make publication of the news articles regularly on newspaper regarding the mainstreaming of PEI and green growth concept into the NSEDP.

#### **Output 2:**

- 1) Endorsement and launching National Investment Strategy (NIS).
- 2) Support and institutionalize regular discussion forums between related sectors to implement National and Provincial Investment Strategies.
- 3) Finalizing and endorsement of Provincial Investment Strategies (PISs).
- 4) Engagement with private sector on CSR issues to support the implementation of the National Investment Strategy.
- 5) Produce two policy briefs.
- 6) Annual report (2013) on state of investments developed.
- 7) Support the development of Investment Promotion Profile for 4 old pilot provinces.
- 8) Support translation, printing, and dissemination of One Stop Service Information handbook (English version)
- 9) Build capacity of provincial DPI on Public-Private Dialogues, pilot in two pilot provinces Oudomxay and Savannakhet provinces.
- 10) Develop Screening Checklist for concession investment proposal and conduct training for IPD and DPI in 16 provinces.
- 11) Training on development of MOU and CA for IPD staffs and DPI from 16 provinces.

- 12) Development of new database and provide training.
- 13) Develop sustainable financing mechanism for IPD monitoring.
- 14) IPD-ESIA Jointed monitoring activities and organize IPD-ESIA roundtable meeting.
- 15) Assessment of provincial monitoring second round.
- 16) Support regular monitoring of pilot provinces.
- 17) Support implementation of communication strategy.

Output 3:

- 1) EIA / IEE, including public involvement training for DESIA and 8 provinces (jointly with EMSP)
- 2) EIA Decree / instruction dissemination
- 3) IEE review guidelines revision
- 4) Finalization of AF SESO
- 5) Elaboration of the AF EIA Guidance note
- 6) Training on the AF SESO and the guidance note
- 7) EIA / IEE quality baseline study
- 8) PI lessons learned / good practice study
- 9) PI guidelines revision
- 10) IPD – DESIA joint monitoring
- 11) Knowledge products (2 policy briefs and video on PI)
- 12) PEI-ESIA has been asked to deliver the training on EIA PI for the National Assembly.  
The cost will be covered by the PEI-Output 4.

Activities pending the budget availability:

- 13) Case study on cumulative impact assessment
- 14) Staff attend international conference/training (inside the country):
- 15) Workshop with line agencies to share and exchange experiences;

Output 4:

- 1) Working with Economic Department and the Training Centre to identify a strategy to address and integrate PE-Equity and climate change issues within NA decisions on key investment.  
Review and design the awareness raising materials together with the NA Training Center and NA Economic Department.
- 3) Deliver training on i) Public involvement training; ii) Overall investment approval process; iii) Training on EIA process based on the revised EIA Decree; iv) Pre-screening criteria to support the decision on key investment; v) Mining financial assessment tools; vi) Database as a investment management tool.
- 4) Coordinate with other PEI component to support the training activities and training package development such as: training material the public involvement training, EIA process, investment approval trainings.
- 5) Implementing the PEI communication strategy including i) dissemination and presentation on the issues/policy brief and knowledge products related to PE and investment. ii) Identify and joint developed the demand driven research topic for the NA and NERI with possible link to other PEI components.
- 6) Workshop or presentation session on the quality investment baseline and the first PEI-NERI study/research/result of the mini grant study.
- 7) Briefing on the National Investment Strategy to NA.

#### Output 5:

- 1) Carry out a new environmental-economic study on the linkage of poverty and environment to assess/compare financial and economic implication of investment projects – Develop syntheses or meta analyses (literature review) relevant to the new study
- 2) Produce final report for the contract framing study and submit a related article to an international open source journal
- 3) Final report for mini grant research (approved in fiscal year 2013) completed to support the study on contract farming and environmental economics
- 4) Revise a structure of research working team for the new research topic
- 5) Support the development formal two sets of capacity building manual and modules on environmental economics and on assessment of contract farming practices
- 6) Institutionalize capacity building for technical staff and policy makers within government training centres and at provincial levels
- 7) Develop an Institutional strategy for NERI on how to improve quality research delivery to policy makers
- 8) Organize workshop to disseminate the final result of the study of contract farming models at 3 times in 3 provinces- north, central, south (with representative from other provinces attend)
- 9) Produce policy briefs for the contract farming study and the baseline assessment of investment quality.
- 10) Layout making and printing for the final reports of for the contract farming study and the baseline assessment of investment quality.



Annexes

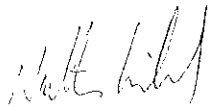
1. 2013 Annual Workplan
2. 2013 Progress and achievements against Result and Resource Framework (RRF)
3. Project risk log
4. Project issue log
5. Lessons learn log

PREPARED BY

Prepared by

PEI Output teams

Reviewed by:

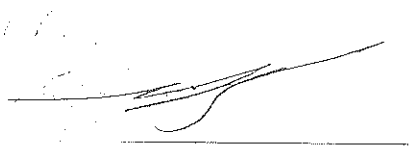


Nathan Leibel  
PEI Technical Advisor (TA)

17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014

Date

Approved by:

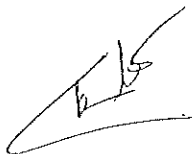


Chitlatda Keomuongchanh  
Deputy Director Investment Promotion Department  
Ministry of Planning and Investment  
Project Manager Output 2 and Secretariat for PEI Laos

17/02/14

Date

Acknowledged by:



Chitlatda Keomuongchanh  
Programme Analyst  
UNDP Lao PDR

17/02/14

Date

